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Fig. 12A shows, for the carrier shape measurement device according to the first embodiment of the present invention, an explanatory figure showing a structure in which a gap 49 can easily occur in a dustproof sheet 14; Fig. 12B shows another explanatory structure for preventing loosening of the dustproof sheet 14.

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Now, the structure of a FOUP type carrier 18 which is the subject of measurement by this carrier shape measurement device according to the first embodiment of the present invention will be explained in detail. FOUP (Front Opening Unified Pod) is a carrier shape which is specified by the SEMI standard, and it is a carrier of the sealed type which receives wafers of 300 mm diameter. In concrete terms, the FOUP carrier 18 comprises a main body 91 which has an aperture only at its front surface, and a door 92 which is for closing this aperture. On both the side surfaces of the inside of the main body 91 there are provided a plurality of projections, i.e., of so-called teeth 93, with fixed spaces between them. Both the edges of wafers of 300 mm diameter are supported by these teeth 93 as shown in Fig. 11. Further, three concave members (not shown in the figures) are provided upon the bottom surface of the main body 91. A kinematic coupling according to the SEMI standard is implemented by these three concave members engaging with the pins 20a, 20b and 20c of the kinematic plate 20 of the stage 12.

Further, the door 92 of the FOUP type carrier 18 is provided with registration pin holes 96 for positioning the door 92, and with latch key holes 95 for keeping the door 92 in the unlocked state or in the locked state. When the door 92 is opened, first, positioning of the door 92 is performed by registration pins of a loading port being inserted into the registration pin holes 96, and then, after the door 92 has been put into the unlocked state by latch keys being inserted into the latch key holes and being rotated, the door 92 is separated from the main body 91 by the load port pulling the door 92 forward to itself.